

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17 and 19-75 are pending in this application. Claims 9, 12-17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-31, 33-35, 37-39, 41-43, 45-47, 49-51, 53-55, 57-59, 61-63, 65-67, 69-71 and 73-75 are withdrawn. By this amendment, Claims 1 and 68 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 4-8, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 52, 56, 60 and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,839,019 to Ito; and Claims 44, 48 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ito in view of U.S. Patent 6,943,921 to Nakata.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied art does not teach or suggest a reading type changing part changing a type of reading of a plurality of originals which include different types of originals in a mixed manner being read, the different types of originals including originals having an image on a single side thereof and originals having images on both sides thereof, the reading type changing part changes a type of reading in response to a reading type change instruction input by an operator after a first of the plurality of originals is read and before a last of the plurality of originals is read, as recited in Claim 1 and similarly recited in Claim 68.

The Office Action asserts on page 3 that Ito discusses the reading type changing part as claimed, in particular the discussion in Ito in col. 6, lines 45-65; col. 7, lines 54-55 and col. 8, lines 61-67. However, Applicants submit that Ito merely discusses that a body part of an original is copied on both sides. That is, from an original in a single side manner, a copy is obtained in a both side manner. The cited portions of Ito are silent with respect to both 1)

originals having an image on a single side thereof and 2) originals having images on both sides thereof being included.

With respect to Fig. 6 of Ito, a combination mode uses horizontally fed A4 size common documents and vertically fed A4 size special documents. In the combination mode, the images of the common documents are formed on a vertical A4 size copy sheet at a magnification of 0.7078 using the two-in-one mode. The images of special documents are copied on copy sheets fed from a supply aperture accommodating cover pages at equal magnification using the one-in-one mode. Similarly, the image of special documents, if a partition page document, are copied on copy sheets fed from a supply aperture accommodating partition pages at equal magnification using the one-in-one mode.

Further, Ito discusses that a single document is transported one sheet at a time by ADF 50 to a position on document platen 29. Paper supply apertures 31, 33, and 11 are previously selected by the operator for the desired paper supply. In the two-in-one mode of Ito, two documents are fed by ADF 50 to positions on document platen 29 and images of both documents are copied onto the same surface of a single copy sheet. As discussed in col. 8 of Ito, in the cover page mode/partition page mode, if a document is of a different size or orientation than the first page among a group of documents, the document is designated a cover page document. If the document is the last page it is designated a back cover page, if the document is in an intermediate position in the group, it is designated a partition page document, and all other documents are common documents. Copy sheets for cover page documents, back cover page documents, and partition page documents are fed from a supply aperture previously selected by an operator, and a copy is made.

However, Claims 1 and 68 of the present invention similarly recite that a reading type changing part changes a type of reading of a plurality of originals which include different types of originals having an image on a single side and images on both sides thereof, the

reading type changing part changes a type of reading based on a change instruction input by an operator after a first of the plurality of originals is read and before a last of the plurality of originals is read. The claimed features are not taught by the applied art. In accordance with one or more embodiments of the invention, grouping of the original group in which different types of originals are mixed, can be achieved in a single job. Accordingly, it becomes possible for a user to easily handle a complicated original such as for example, single-sided and double-sided mixed originals, and produce a desired type of copy therefrom.

In an example of the present invention discussed with respect to Figs. 8 and 9, the operation panel 70 is a window opened as a result of the double-side combination/division key 207 being pressed, and then, a single/double mixture key 227 being then further pressed. A one side key 228 and a double side key 229 are keys for inputting by the operator as to whether or not an original to be read in is of a single-sided one or a double-sided one. When the one side key 228 or the double side key 229 is pressed by the operator, a notice of reading type change is input into the copy application 22. A one side key 230 and a double side key 231 are keys for an operator to input for whether a printed paper sheet should be produced into a single-sided one or a double-sided one.

Printing processing is discussed in the present specification on pages 29-35, Figs. 9A-9N and 9P-9R for example, showing processing of printing an original group in which single-sided originals and double-sided originals are mixed. The single side key 228 is pressed or the double side key 231 is pressed. First printing is of five double-sided copies from one side originals 300. Thus, in case the double-sided copy is produced from single-sided originals, after the both original images to form the double sides are read and stored into the storage, they are printed out for a single double-sided printing paper sheet. The original images on the first and second as well as the third and fourth sheets are printed on double-sided copy. Next, the original image of the fifth sheet is read and stored. At this time, the operator

presses the original separation key 234 since printing of the single-sided originals 300 is finished and the fifth sheet is printed as page 5 in a single-sided copy (Fig. 9N). By the function of the original separation key 234, a subsequent original image is prevented from being formed on the reverse side of the printing paper sheet.

Then, originals to be copied are double-sided originals 302 of three sheets shown in Fig. 9B. To change a type of reading original image since the original changes from the single-sided one into the double-sided one, the original reading mode change key 191 should be pressed by the operator, i.e., the double side key 229 should be pressed. Then, copying of the double-sided originals 302 is started. A double-sided copy of pages 6 and 7 and pages 8 and 9 are produced as shown in Fig. 9P. Next, the obverse side of the third sheet is read and is stored in the storage. At this time, the operator presses the original separation key 234. As a result, the obverse side of the third sheet of the original is printed as a page 10 in a single-sided copy. At this time, no page number is printed on the reverse side of this single-sided copy of page 10. The double-sided originals 302 are thus copied into the three sheets of printing paper 303 as shown in FIG. 9P with the above-described processing. Thus, even in case of processing a double-sided original sheet, it is possible, with the function of the original separation key 234, to produce a single-sided copy which has the page of original image only on the obverse side thereof. In Fig. 9C, since the original changes from the double-sided one to the single-sided one, the original reading mode change key 191 should be pressed, i.e., the single side key 228 should be pressed. Page 11 is then printed in a single side printing manner as well as first and second sheets of the single-sided originals 304.

Accordingly, the features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by the applied art. Nakata does not make up for the deficiencies of Ito discussed above, nor does the Office Action particularly assert as such. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103(a) over Ito and Nakata is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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